

Message Text

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41

ACTION HEW-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 PASS-00 IO-10 MED-03 /029 W

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R 241026Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6491

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 1127

DEPT PASS DAVID SENCER, CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL, ATLANTA
FROM FOEGE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TPHY IN

SUBJECT: DHEW/PHS/CDC - SMALLPOX OUTBREAKS IN BIHAR

1. MILLAR GENERALLY PLEASED WITH BIHAR AREAS ASSESSED TO DATE. PENDING OUTBREAKS IN BIHAR NOW 164 WITH OUTBREAKS RETAINED ON BOOKS FOR SIX WEEKS AFTER ONSET OF LAST CASE RATHER THAN FOUR WEEKS AS PREVIOUSLY DONE. NEW OUTBREAKS AT RECORD LOW OF 19 NEW IN WEEK TWO AND TWENTYONE NEW IN WEEK THREE WITH TWENTY-THREE OF THIRTY-ONE DISTRICTS HAVING NO NEW OUTBREAKS IN WEEK THREE. TRANSMISSION POTENTIAL HAS INCREASED OVER PREVIOUS MONTHS DUE TO LOW TEMPERATURE AND HUMIDITY PLUS LARGE POPULATION MOVEMENTS THEREFORE ANXIETY LEVEL HAS NOT DECLINED AS FAST AS OUTBREAK LEVEL.

2. ONLY SEVENTY-ONE OUTBREAKS REMAIN OUTSIDE OF BIHAR. ALL APPEAR TO BE WELL HANDLED. MAJOR WORRY IS OF LONG DISTANCE EXPORTATION TO OTHER PARTS OF INDIA PARTICULARLY FROM AN EXPLOSIVE VILLAGE OUTBREAK IN NALANDA DISTRICT OF BIHAR WHICH HAS HOSTED 500 RELIGIOUS PILGRIMS A DAY FOR THREE WEEKS BEFORE WE LEARNED OF OUTBREAK.

3. TOP PRIORITY AT MOMENT MUST BE GIVEN TO BANGLADESH WHERE OUTBREAK COUNT HAS INCREASED TO 332. AFTER RECEIVING MESSAGE FROM FOSTER YESTERDAY WE HAVE DECIDED TO RAPIDLY RECRUIT PERSONNEL AND HAVE STARTED CONTACTING VARIOUS AGENCIES. WE RECOGNIZE CDC PERSONNEL RESOURCES HAVE LIMITS BUT COULD CDC AGAIN APPROACH

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OTHER GROUPS WHERE RECRUITMENT LIKELY. CANDIDATES MUSTBE

APPRAISED OF DIFFICULT FIELD CONDITIONS, FREQUENT LACK OF
ACCOMMODATIONS, NEED TO LIVE ON LOCAL DIET AND WALK LONG
DISTANCES. AGE THEREFORE A FACTOR. MINIMUM NINETY DAYS WITH
SUPERVISORY ABILITIES AND STABILITY MORE IMPORTANT THAN MEDICAL
BACKGROUND. PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE DEVELOPING AREAS HELPFUL BUT
NOT ESSENTIAL. CURRICULUM VITAE SHOULD BE SENT TO HENDERSON
WHO GENEVA.SCHNEIDER

NOTE BY OC/T: PASSED CDC ATLANTA.

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